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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An apparatus for forming and disconnecting an electrical path includes a split tine socket that is formed of a high yield strength conducting material or metal and which includes a plurality of tines. Each tine functions as a two stage spring to supply a normal force that urges the tine toward the center of the socket. Each tine is machined to include an undercut portion proximate a tip. The undercut portion of each tine produces a patch of material having a greater thickness than the undercut portion. The patch provides an area of electrical contact intermediate a pin and the tine and is adapted to receive and accommodate a pin that does not align axially with the socket. Each patch ensures that physical, and therefore electrical, contact with the pin will occur at the tip of each tine. A plurality of sockets are typically included in a connector.